

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Akira IMAI, et al.  
Application No.: TBD  
Filed: July 22, 2003  
For: MANUFACTURING METHOD OF SEMICONDUCTOR  
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT  
Exp. Art Group: 1765  
Exp. Examiner: William A. Powell

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 22, 2003

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to examination thereof,  
as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, between the title and the heading "Technical Field of the Invention",  
please add the following new paragraph:

--This Application is a Continuation Application of Application No. 09/903,580,  
filed July 13, 2001, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference in  
their entirety.--